This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents will not correct images, please do not report the images to the Image Problem Mailbox.

JP-A-6-156049

An air conditioner includes an evaporator (28) disposed at an upper side of a blower (18), and a radiator (46) disposed at an upper side of the evaporator (28). On an upper side of the radiator (46), there are formed a defroster air outlet (50), a foot air outlet (54), an upper side air outlets (58, 60) and switching doors (52, 56, 62). In the air conditioner, the evaporator (28) is disposed approximately horizontally, and a drain pipe (68) for draining condensed water is provided at a lower side position of the evaporator (28).

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number:

06-156049

(43) Date of publication of application **5** 03.06.1994

(51)Int.CI.

B60H 1/00

(21)Application number: 05-170069

(71)Applicant:

VALEO THERMIQUE HABITACLE

(22)Date of filing:

09.07.1993

(72)Inventor:

DAUVERGNE JEAN

(30)Priority

Priority number: 92 9208544

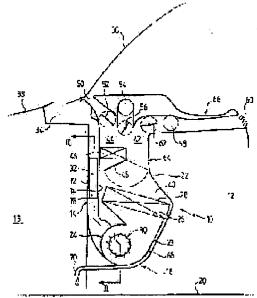
Priority date: 09.07.1992

Priority country: FR

(54) HEATING AND VENTILATING AIR CONDITIONER FOR COMPARTMENT OF VEHICLE

PURPOSE: To provide a heating and ventilating air conditioner with small occupied a volume in a compartment which can be installed in both a right handle type motor vehicle or a left handle type motor vehicle.

CONSTITUTION: A blower 18 and an air distributor 22 are vertically arranged with the blower 18 disposed below the air distributor and they are attached to the lower part of a gauge board 66 in the front face of a compartment 12. An outside air inlet pipe 32 flat in the direction of width of a vehicle is provided between a partition wall 14 for separating the compartment 12 from an engine chamber and the air distributor 22. Thus, outside air is sucked by the blower 18 and fed into the vehicle from outlet ports 50, 54, 58 and 60 by the air distributor 22 via an evaporator 28 for air conditioning and a heat exchanger 44 for heating. Since the device is generally a vertical type, its occupied volume in the compartment is small, and accordingly, it does not protrude to the engine chamber. Since the device is formed symmetrically, it can be installed both in a right handle type vehicle and in a left handle type vehicle without reconstruction.



LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

30.06.2000

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposes of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

[Date of registration]

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]

Copyright (C); 1998,2000 Japan Patent Office

* NOTICES *

Japan Patent Office is not responsible for any damages caused by the use of this translation.

- 1. This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
- 2.**** shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] A blower equipped with the inhalation opening (24) and the delivery (26) of air (18), Have the air-intake (40) connected to the delivery (26) of a blower (18), and it lets the heat exchanger (46) with which it was equipped pass. In the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile which equips each part of the vehicle interior of a room with the distributor (22) which sends in cold blast or warm air from an air exit cone (50), (54), (58), and (60) the upper limit of the air-suction-system spool (32) which arranges a blower (18) perpendicularly as a lower part of a distributor (22), and turns to a perpendicular mostly -- open air inhalation -- to a hole Similarly a soffit is connected to the inhalation opening (24) of a blower (18), respectively, and an open air suction pipe (32) The heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile characterized by arranging between the almost perpendicular separation septa (14) and air distributors (22) which separate the vehicle room (12) and engine room (16) of an automobile.

[Claim 2] An open air suction pipe (32) is the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 characterized by being prolonged till the place which exceeds the overall height of a distributor (22) at least.

[Claim 3] An open air suction pipe (32) is the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by being prolonged from the upper part of a blower (18) to a height at least. [Claim 4] An open air suction pipe (32) is the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 to 3 characterized by the dimension of the vertical orientation of an automobile being small and having a long and slender cross-section form in the cross direction with the large dimension of the cross direction.

[Claim 5] The stopp the position which an open air suction pipe (32) is equipped [position] with at least one recirculating-air intake (78) which is oven for free passage inside a vehicle room (12), and inhalation of a recirculating air is stopped [position], and carries out the inhalation of air of the fresh air from the outside of the car body to a blower (18), The heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 to 4 characterized by having the control valve (80) which can move the air through which it circulates from a vehicle room to the open position which carries out inhalation of air to a blower (18).

[Claim 6] A blower (18) is the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 to 5 characterized by having two fans (84) who attract air through the two suction openings (90) and (92), respectively, and having driven these two fans by one common motor (88).

[Claim 7] The heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 to 6 characterized by having turned the air-intake (40) of a distributor (22) facing down for the delivery (26) of a blower (18) again upward.

[Claim 8] In order to prepare an evaporator (28) between the delivery (26) of a blower (18), and the air-intake (40) of a distributor (22), and to send the air-conditioned air into a distributor (22) and to discharge a part for the clarified water from an evaporator (28) The heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile according to claim 1 to 7 characterized by preparing the excretory ductules of lacrimal gland (68) which are opened for free passage with an evaporator and turn to a lower part along with a blower (18).

[Translation done.]

* NOTICES *

Japan Patent Office is not responsible for any damages caused by the use of this translation.

- 1. This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
- 2.*** shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] this invention relates to the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of an automobile.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] As this kind of equipment, it has the blower which has the inhalation opening and the delivery of air, and the distributor which has another inhalation opening connected to the delivery of a blower, and the heat exchanger which heats the air inhaled by the distributor of a parenthesis, and equipment equipped with the air exit cone which ventilates each part of the vehicle room of an automobile in the air cooled or heated are known.

[0003] In such a well-known thing, after compressing the air inhaled [****] outside the vehicle room by the blower, sending it into a distributor and heating it if needed, it adjusts by the proper flap valve for a control, and the vehicle interior of a room is ventilated from an exit cone.

[0004] the air-suction-system opening by which the air-suction-system opening of a blower has generally been arranged in the upper part of a wrap hood in the engine room in this kind of well-known equipment at the soffit section of a windshield aperture, or air breathing -- it is prepared in the position close to the hole

[0005] A distributor is formed immediately after a blower and equipment is arranged collectively almost horizontally. [0006]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] the above -- the occupancy capacity is large, even if it installs it in any in the lower part by the side of the vehicle room of the instrument board, or an engine room, since well-known equipment is a configuration arranged almost horizontally

[0007] Moreover, it will be necessary to design separately the equipment applied to the automobile of an asymmetric right-hand drive formula and a lee-hand drive formula, and the manufacturing cost is influenced.

[0008] Furthermore, since a hand very seldom generally arrives, this well-known equipment is inconvenient when work of a maintenance and a repair is needed.

[0009] Furthermore, with this well-known equipment, if a vehicle room is made to open the inhalation opening of a blower for free passage, the air of the vehicle interior of a room is circulated and this inhalation opening is closed by the flap valve, a blower will attract an external fresh air.

[0010] Since this well-known equipment has the constraint on a dimension, a normal operation of a blower may be barred with the air-suction-system opening.

[0011] The key objective of this invention is offering the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of an automobile which canceled the above-mentioned fault.

[0012] Another purpose of this invention is that the vehicle indoor occupancy capacity of an automobile offers the parvus above-mentioned equipment.

[0013] Even if an automobile is a right-hand drive type and still another purpose of this invention is a left-hand drive type, it is offering the above-mentioned equipment which can be attached.

[0014] still another purpose of this invention is completely **** in the engine interior of a room -- it is offering the above-mentioned equipment which is not **

[0015] Still another purpose of this invention is offering the above-mentioned equipment with which an operation of a blower is not barred with the inhalation opening of a recirculating air.

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to attain the above-mentioned purpose, this invention is constituted as follows. [0017] Have a blower equipped with the inhalation opening and the delivery of air, and the air-intake connected to the delivery of a blower, and it lets the heat exchanger with which it was equipped pass. In the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile which equips each part of the vehicle interior of a room with the distributor which sends in cold blast or warm air from an air exit cone the upper limit of the air-suction-system spool which arranges a blower perpendicularly as a lower part of a distributor, and turns to a perpendicular mostly -- open air inhalation -- to a hole The heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner for the vehicle rooms of the automobile characterized by having connected the soffit to the inhalation opening of a blower similarly, respectively, and arranging an open air suction pipe between the almost perpendicular

separation septa and air distributors which separate the vehicle room and engine room of an automobile.

[0018] As for an open air suction pipe, it is desirable to be prolonged till the place which exceeds the overall height of an air distributor at least.

[0019] As for an oper air suction pipe, being prolonged to a height is more desirable than the upper part of a blower at least. [0020] An open air suction pipe has the small dimension of the vertical orientation of an automobile, and it is desirable to have a

long and slender cross-section form in the cross direction with the large dimension of the cross direction.

[0021] As for an open air suction pipe, it is desirable to have at least one recirculating-air intake which is open for free passage among the vehicle indoor section, and to stop inhalation of a recirculating air and to have a control valve movable to the stoppage position which carries out the inhalation of air of the fresh air from the outside of the car body to a blower, and the open position which carries out the inhalation of air of the air through which it circulates from a vehicle room to a blower.

[0022] As for a blower, it is desirable that it has two fans who attract air through the two suction openings, respectively, and is made to drive these two fans by one common motor.

[0023] It is desirable to have turned the air-intake of a distributor facing down for the delivery of a blower again upward. [0024] In order to prepare an evaporator between the delivery of a blower, and the air-intake of a distributor, and to send the air-conditioned air into a distributor and to discharge a part for the clarified water from an evaporator, it is desirable to prepare the excretory ductules of lacrimal gland which are opened for free passage with an evaporator and turn to a lower part along with a blower.

[0025]

[Function] Since it constitutes perpendicularly unlike the conventional level type, the occupancy capacity in the car body of an automobile decreases, and can be installed between a driver's seat and the instrument board.

[0026] the open air suction pipe which is perpendicularly suitable -- the open air inhalation near the lower part of a windshield aperture -- it connects between a hole and the inhalation opening of a blower installed in the lower part of equipment, and the fresh open air is taken in

[0027] By the control valve installed in the inlet-side duct of a blower, the air attracted by the blower is changed to the fresh open air and a recirculating air from a vehicle room.

[0028]

[Example] <u>Drawing 1</u> is a cross section [in the II-II line of <u>drawing 1</u> in the outline cross section and the <u>drawing 2</u> which cut the equipment of this invention attached in the automobile to the cross direction of an automobile].

[0029] <u>Drawing 1</u> shows the heating, the ventilation, and the air conditioner (10) for the vehicle rooms (12) of an automobile. This equipment (10) is attached in the vehicle room side of a perpendicular separation septum (14) which separates the vehicle room (12) and engine room (16) of an automobile. The part isolation wall (14) which serves as a fire wall has turned to the transection orientation to the cross direction of an automobile.

[0030] The separation septum (14) is perpendicularly equipped with equipment (10), and it is equipped with the air blower (18) located in the place near the floor (20) of an automobile as an indispensable object. The air blower (18) is located in the method of directly under of an air distributor (22).

[0031] The case (23) of an air blower (18) is formed in a spiral type, and has the air-suction-system opening (24) which turns to the separation septum (14) slanting upper part, and the upward air delivery (26) which attached the evaporator (28). Into the case (23), the motorised fan unit (30) mentioned later is installed.

[0032] Moreover, the open air suction pipe (32) which is perpendicularly suitable mostly between a separation septum (14) and a distributor (22) is prepared. An open air suction pipe (32) exceeds the overall height of a distributor (22), and is prolonged to the position higher than a blower (18), the upper limit of an open air suction pipe (32) -- open air inhalation -- similarly the soffit is connected to the inhalation opening (24) of a blower (18) at the hole (34)

[0033] open air inhalation -- a hole (34) acts also as a "water separator" This is prepared near the connection of a windshield aperture (36) and a hood (38) as everyone knows. By this configuration, the fresh air from the exterior is inhaled by the blower (18) through an open air suction pipe (32), and after passing an evaporator (22) and processing, it is sent to a distributor (22). [0034] There is a downward air-intake (40) which is open for free passage to the air delivery (26) of a blower (18) in a distributor (22). The air-intake (40) is open for free passage to the open air flow branch pipe (42) and the heating air branch pipe (44) which attached the heat exchanger (46) called a radiator.

[0035] A control valve (48) distributes the air which flows to two branch pipes (42) and (44), and adjusts the temperature of the air sent in a vehicle room (12) through the exit cone of each part.

[0036] In this example, a distributor (22) has at least one air exit cone (50) among the soffit section of a windshield aperture (36), and has prevented freezing and cloudiness of a windshield aperture (36) among it. The air capacity of an air exit cone (50) is controlled by the flap valve (52) which carries out a drive.

[0037] Moreover, a distributor (22) passes through the proper duct which is equipped with at least one exit cone (54) which carries out opening towards the low place of a vehicle room (12), and is not illustrated, and it is made to ventilate near a passenger's pin. The air capacity of an air exit cone (54) is controlled by another flap valve (56).

[0038] Furthermore, the distributor (22) is equipped with at least one another air exit cone (58) located in the side face, and one air exit cone (60) located in the center. An air exit cone (58) and the air capacity of (60) are controlled by one another flap valve (62) which carries out a drive.

[0039] The instrument board (66) of an automobile is equipped with the whole equipment (10) in housing (64) attached with the

almost perpendicular posture.

[0040] After passing along an evaporator (28) and cooling and dehumidifying if needed, or after heating the air sent by the motorised fan unit (30) with a heat exchanger (46) similarly if needed, it is delivered in a vehicle room (12) based on a setup of each control valve (52), (56), and (62) from each exit cone (50), (54), (58), and (60).

[0041] Furthermore, equipment (10) is equipped with the excretory ductules of lacrimal gland (68) which discharge the moisture condensed with the evaporator (28). These excretory ductules of lacrimal gland (68) are open for free passage to an evaporator (28), and are caudad prolonged in accordance with the case (23) of a blower (18). Opening (70) for discharging a part for a clarified water under an automobile is prepared in the soffit of excretory ductules of lacrimal gland (68).

[0042] The open air suction pipe (32) has the cross-section configuration long and slender in longitudinal direction. In this example, the rectangle which uses the vertical orientation of an automobile as a shorter side for this cross-section form, and makes the cross direction the long side has been carried out.

[0043] The open air section pipe (32) is divided with the front wall (72) by the side of a separation septum (14), and the rear-face wall (74) parallel to it. The wall (72) of order and the breadth of (74) are wider than full [of a distributor (22)], for example, are about 300mm.

[0044] Furthermore, the open air suction pipe (32) is divided with two side attachment walls (76) installed face to face and referring to [(referring to the <u>drawing 2</u>)]. Such width of face is narrow, for example, is about 30mm.

[0045] Each side attachment wall (76) is equipped with the recirculating-air inhalation opening (78) which is open for free passage inside a vehicle room (12), and has attached the flap valve (80) for a control to this inhalation opening (78), respectively. Each flap valve (80) is supported pivotably possible [rotation] by the position which stops the recirculating-air inhalation opening (78) shown in drawing 2 as a solid line, and the open position shown with a dashed line.

[0046] If it is the position which stops each recirculating-air inhalation opening (78), a motorised fan unit (30) will attract only the air from the outside of the car body to $\frac{drawing 2}{drawing 2}$, as the arrow head F1 shows. On the other hand, the recirculating-air inhalation opening (78) is opened wide, and if it is the position where two flap valves contact a common stopper (82), a motorised fan unit (30) will attract only the recirculating air from a vehicle room to $\frac{drawing 2}{drawing 2}$, as the arrow head F2 shows. A flap valve (80) cannot be set as the mid-position to *****

[0047] In addition, as shown in drawing 2, the fan unit (30) to which motorised [of the blower (18)] is carried out equips the ends of one horizontal axis (86) with two fans (84), and drives them by one motor (88). Air is supplied to two fans (84) from the two air-suction-system openings (90) and (92), even if the flap valve (80) for a recirculating-air control is in which position, the air-suction-system opening (90) and (92) are closed—please regard especially

[0048] since this equipment (10) is attached with the almost perpendicular posture to the separation septum (14), the capacity occupied to the vehicle interior of a room is small, and is completely **** at an engine room -- there is no ** [0049] By whether an automobile is equipped with an air conditioner, it prepares or an evaporator is omitted. [0050]

[Effect of the Invention] (a) Since it constitutes in the vertical type unlike the equipment of the conventional level type, it can install underneath the instrument board and the occupancy capacity of the vehicle interior of a room can be made small. [0051] (b) it is completely **** at an engine room side -- since there is no **, it is not necessary to convert the car body of an automobile

[0052] (c) Since it is constituted by the bilateral-symmetry form which can be installed on the center line of an automobile, in automobile can also install a right-hand drive formula or a left-hand drive formula without change.

[0053] (d) Since the open air suction pipe is formed in the orientation of breadth at the flat cross-section form, when it installs between a separation septum and the air distributor of equipment, an occupancy capacity does not increase and the open air of a complement can be taken in.

[0054] (e) The depth dimension of equipment is small, and since it has installed underneath the instrument board in front of a driver's seat, a maintenance and repair work are easy.

[0055] (f) With the configuration indicated to the claim 8, since the duct which discharges a part for a clarified water from the evaporator of an air conditioner underneath the car body is formed, the amount of clarified water does not soil the floor of a vehicle room etc.

[Translation done.]

(19)日本国特計厅 (JP) (12) 公開特許公報(A)

广内整理番号

(11)特許出願公開番号

特開平6-156049

(43)公開日 平成6年(1994)6月3日

(51)Int.Cl.5

識別記号

FΙ

技術表示窗所

B 6 0 H 1/00

102 E

審査請求 未請求 請求項の数8(全 5 頁)

(21)出願番号

特爾平5-170069

(22)出願日

平成5年(1993)7月9日

(31) 優先権主張番号 92 08544

(32)優先日

1992年7月9日

(33)優先権主張国

フランス (FR)

(71)出願人 591033272

ヴァレオ テルミク アピタクル

VALEO THERMIQUE HAB

ITACLE

フランス国 78320 ル メニル・サン・

デニ ラ ヴェリエール リュ ルイ・ロ

ルマン 8

(72)発明者 ジャン ドヴェルニュ

フランス国 95470 フォセス アレ マ

リス イルス 6

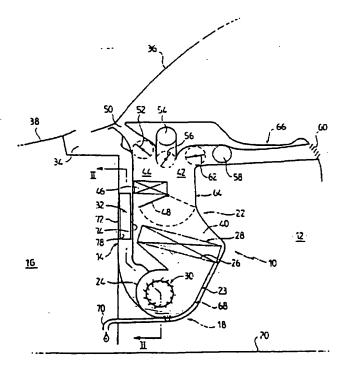
(74)代理人 介理士 竹沢 荘一

(54) 【発明の名称】 自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置

(57)【要約】

[目的] 車室内の占有容積が小さく、右ハンドル式、 左ハンドル式のどちらの自動車にも設置できる暖房・換 気・空調装置を提供する。

【構成】 プロワ18と空気分配器22とを、プロワ1 8を下にして垂直に配置して、車室12の前面の計器板 66の下方に取付け、車室12とエンジン室16とを隔 てる分離隔壁14と空気分配器22との間に、車幅方向 に扁平な外気吸入管32を設けて、外気をプロワ18で 吸引して、空調用の蒸発器28や暖房用の熱交換器44 などを経て、空気分配器22により、吹出し口50、5 4,58,60から車内へ送り出す。装置全体が垂直型 であるため、車室内の占有容積が少なく、エンジン室に はみだすこともない。左右対称であるため、ハンドルが 左右いずれの形式の自動車にも、改造なしで設置でき



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 空気の吸入口(24)と吐出口(26)とを備えるプロワ(18)と、プロワ(18)の吐出口(26)に接続された空気取入れ口(40)を有し、それに装着した熱交換器(46)を通して、空気吹出し口(50)(54)(58)(60)から、車室内の各部に冷風又は温風を送りこむ分配器(22)とを備える自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置において、

プロワ(18)を分配器(22)の下方として垂直に配置し、ほぼ垂直を向く空気吸入管(32)の上端を外気吸入孔に、同じく下端をプロワ(18)の吸入口(24)にそれぞれ接続し、10かつ外気吸入管(32)を、自動車の車室(12)とエンジン室(16)とを隔てるほぼ垂直の分離隔壁(14)と空気分配器(22)との間に配設したことを特徴とする自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【請求項2】 外気吸入管(32)は、少なくとも分配器(22)の全高を超えるところまで延びていることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【請求項3】 外気吸入管(32)は、少なくともプロワ(18)の上部より高所まで延びていることを特徴とする請求20項1又は2に記載の自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【請求項4】 外気吸入管(32)は、自動車の上下方向の 寸法が小さく、車幅方向の寸法が大きい、車幅方向に細 長い断面形を有することを特徴とする請求項1ないし3 のいずれかに記載の自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調 装置。

【請求項5】 外気吸入管(32)は、車室(12)内部に連通する少なくとも1個の循環空気取入れ口(78)を備え、かつ、循環空気の吸入を止めて、車体外からの新鮮な空気30をプロワ(18)に吸気させる閉止位置と、車室から循環する空気をプロワ(18)に吸気させる開放位置とに移動可能な制御弁(80)を備えることを特徴とする請求項1ないし4のいずれかに記載の自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【請求項6】 プロワ(18)は、それぞれ2か所の吸引口(90)(92)を通して空気を吸引する2個のフアン(84)を備え、かつこれら2個のフアンを共通の1個のモーター(88)で駆動するようにしてあることを特徴とする請求項1ないし5のいずれかに記載の自動車の車室用の吸房・拗0気・空調装置。

【請求項7】 プロワ(18)の吐出口(26)を、上向きに、また分配器(22)の空気取入れ口(40)を下向きとしてあることを特徴とする請求項1ないし6のいずれかに記載の自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【請求項8】 プロワ(18)の吐出口(26)と分配器(22)の空気取入れ口(40)との間に蒸発器(28)を設けて、空調された空気を分配器(22)に送り込むようにし、かつ、蒸発器(28)からの凝集水分を排出するために、蒸発器と連通され、かつプロワ(18)に沿って下方を向く排出管(68) 550

設けたことを特徴とする請求項1ないし7のいずれかに 記載の自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は、自動車の車室用の吸房・換気・空調装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】この種の装置としては、空気の吸入口及び吐出口を有するプロワと、プロワの吐出口に接続された、もう1つの吸入口を有する分配器とを備え、かつこの分配器に吸入された空気を加熱する熱交換器と、冷却又は加熱された空気を自動車の車室の各部に送風する空気吹出し口を備える装置が知られている。

【0003】このような公知のものでは、車室の外から 吸入された空気を、プロワによって圧縮して分配器に送 りこみ、必要に応じて加熱した後、適宜の制御用フラッ プ弁により調節して、吹出し口から車室内に送風する。

【0004】この種の公知の装置では、ブロワの空気吸入口は、一般に、エンジン室を覆うフードの上部で風防窓の下端部に配置された、空気吸入口又は空気収入れ孔に近接した位置に設けられている。

【0005】分配器は、プロワの直後に設けられ、装置は、全体としてほぼ水平に配置されている。

[0006]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】上記公知の装置は、ほぼ水平に配置された構成であるために、計器板の車室側の下方、あるいはエンジン室の中のいずれに設置しても、占有容積が大きくなっている。

【0007】また、非対称的な右ハンドル式と左ハンドル式の自動車に適用する装置を、別々に設計する必要が生じ、製造コストに影響している。

【0008】 ざらに、この公知の装置は、一般的にきわめて手がとどきにくいため、保守や修理の作業が必要になったときに、不便である。

【0009】さらにこの公知の装置では、プロワの吸入口を車室に連通させて、車室内の空気を循環させ、この吸入口を、フラップ弁によって閉じると、プロワが、外部の新鮮な空気を吸引するようになっている。

【0010】この公知の装置は、寸法上の制約があるため、空気吸入口により、ブロワの正常な作動を妨げられることがある。

【0011】本発明の主目的は、上記の欠点を解消した、自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置を提供することである。

【0012】本発明の別の目的は、自動車の車室内における占有容積が小さい上記装置を提供することである。

【0013】本発明のさらに別の目的は、自動車が右ハンドル型であっても左ハンドル型であっても、取付けることができる上記装置を提供することである。

【0014】本発明のさらに別の目的は、エンジン室内

に、全くはみださない上記装置を提供することである。 【0015】本発明のさらに別の目的は、循環空気の吸入口によって、プロワの作動が妨げられることがない上記装置を提供することである。

[0016]

[課題を解決するための手段] 上記の目的を達成するために、本発明は、次のとおりに構成されている。

【0017】空気の吸入口と吐出口とを備えるブロワと、プロワの吐出口に接続された空気取入れ口を有し、それに装着した熱交換器を通して、空気吹出し口から、10車室内の各部に冷風又は温風を送りこむ分配器とを備える自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置において、ブロワを分配器の下方として垂直に配置し、ほぼ垂直を向く空気吸入管の上端を外気吸入孔に、同じく下端をブロワの吸入口にそれぞれ接続し、かつ外気吸入管を、自動車の車室とエンジン室とを隔てるほぼ垂直の分離隔壁と空気分配器との間に配設したことを特徴とする自動車の車室用の暖房・換気・空調装置。

【0018】外気吸入管は、少なくとも空気分配器の全高を超えるところまで延びていることが望ましい。 20 【0019】外気吸入管は、少なくともプロワの上部よ

り高所まで延びていることが望ましい。 【0020】外気吸入管は、自動車の上下方向の寸法が 小さく、車幅方向の寸法が大きい、車幅方向に細長い断 面形を有することが望ましい。

【0021】外気吸入管は、車室内部に連通する少なくとも1個の循環空気取入れ口を備え、かつ、循環空気の吸入を止めて、車体外からの新鮮な空気をブロワに吸気させる閉止位置と、車室から循環する空気をブロワに吸気させる開放位置とに移動可能な制御弁を備えることが30望ましい。

[0022] プロワは、それぞれ2か所の吸引口を通して空気を吸引する2個のフアンを備え、かつこれら2個のフアンを共通の1個のモーターで駆動するようにしてあることが望ましい。

[0023] プロワの吐出口を、上向きに、また分配器の空気取入れ口を下向きとしてあることが望ましい。

【0024】プロワの吐出口と分配器の空気取入れ口との間に蒸発器を設けて、空調された空気を分配器に送り込むようにし、かつ、蒸発器からの凝集水分を排出する40ために、蒸発器と連通され、かつプロワに沿って下方を向く排出管を設けることが望ましい。

[0025]

【作用】従来の水平型と異なり、垂直方向に構成してあるため、自動車の車体内の占有容積は減少し、運転席と 計器板との間に設置できる。

【0026】垂直方向を向く外気吸入管を、風防窓の下部に近い外気吸入孔と、装置の下部に設置したプロワの 吸入口との間に接続して、新鮮な外気を取り入れる。

【0027】プロワの吸入側管路に設置した制御弁によ50

り、プロワに吸引される空気を、新鮮な外気と車室から の循環空気とに切り替える。

 $\{0028\}$

【実施例】図1は、自動車に取付けた本発明の装置を、 自動車の前後方向に切断した概略断面図、図2は、図1 のII-II線における断面図である。

【0029】図1は、自動車の単窓(12)用の暖房・換気・空調装置(10)を示す。この装置(10)は、自動車の単窓(12)とエンジン室(16)とを隔てる垂直な分離隔壁(14)の車室側に取付けられている。防火壁を兼ねる分離隔壁(14)は、自動車の前後方向に対して横断方向を向いている。

【0030】装置(10)は、分離隔壁(14)に垂直方向に装着してあり、必須の物として、自動車の床(20)に近い所に位置する空気プロワ(18)を備えている。空気プロワ(18)は、空気分配器(22)の直下方に位置している。

【0031】空気プロワ(18)のケース(23)は、渦巻形に形成され、分離隔壁(14)斜め上方を向く空気吸入口(24)と、蒸発器(28)を取付けた上向きの空気吐出口(26)とを有している。ケース(23)の中には、後述するモーター駆動のフアンユニット(30)を設置してある。

【0032】また、分離隔壁(14)と分配器(22)との間に、ほぼ垂直方向を向く外気吸入管(32)を設けてある。外気吸入管(32)は、分配器(22)の全高を超えて、プロワ(18)より高い位置まで延びている。外気吸入管(32)の上端は外気吸入孔(34)に、同じく下端はプロワ(18)の吸入口(24)に接続されている。

【0033】外気吸入孔(34)は、「水分離器」としても作用する。これは、周知のように、風防窓(36)とフード(38)との接続部の近くに設けられている。この構成により、外部からの新鮮な空気は、外気吸入管(32)を通ってプロワ(18)に吸入され、蒸発器(22)を通過して処理された後に、分配器(22)に送られる。

【0034】分配器(22)には、ブロワ(18)の空気吐出口(26)に連通する下向きの空気取入れ口(40)がある。空気取入れ口(40)は、外気導通分岐管(42)と、放熱器と称される熱交換器(46)を取付けた加熱空気分岐管(44)とに連通している。

【0035】制御弁(48)は、2つの分岐管(42)と(44)と に流れる空気を分配して、各部の吹出し口を通して車室 (12)内に送られる空気の温度を調節する。

【0036】この実施例では、分配器(22)は、風防窓(36)の下端部に、少なくとも1個の空気吹出し口(50)を有し、風防窓(36)の氷結や曇りを防ぐようにしてある。空気吹出し口(50)の風風は、枢動するフラップ作(52)によって制御される。

【0037】また、分配器(22)は、邦室(12)の低所に向けて開口する少なくとも1個の吹出し口(54)を備え、図示しない適宜の管路を経て、搭乗者の足付近に送風するようにしてある。空気吹出し口(54)の風量は、別のフラ

ップ弁(56)によって制御される。

[0038] さらに分配器(22)は、側面に位置する少な くとも1個の別の空気吹出し口(58)と、中央に位置する 1個の空気吹出し口(60)とを備えている。空気吹出し口 (58)及び(60)の風量は、別の1個の枢動するフラップ弁 (62)によって制御される。

[0039] 装置(10)の全体は、自動車の計器板(66) に、ほぼ垂直な姿勢で取付けられたハウジング(64)の中 に装着されている。

[0040] モーター駆動のフアンユニット(30)により0 送られた空気は、蒸発器(28)を通って、必要に応じて冷 却及び除湿された後、あるいは同じく必要に応じて熱交 換器(46)で加熱された後、各制御弁(52)(56)(62)の設定 に基づいて、各吹出し口(50)(54)(58)(60)から車室(12) 内に送り出される。

【0041】さらに装置(10)は、蒸発器(28)で凝集した 水分を排出する排出管(68)を備えている。この排出管(6 8)は、蒸発器(28)に連通し、プロワ(18)のケース(23)に 沿って下方に延びている。排出管(68)の下端には、凝集 水分を自動車の下に排出するための開口(70)を設けてお20 る。

【0042】外気吸入管(32)は、横方向に細長い断面形 状を有している。この実施例では、この断面形を、自動 車の上下方向を短辺とし、幅方向を長辺とする長方形を してある。

【0043】外気吸入管(32)は、分離隔壁(14)側の前面 壁(72)と、それに平行な後面壁(74)とで仕切られてい る。前後の壁(72)及び(74)の横幅は、分配器(22)の全幅 よりも広く、たとえば約300mmである。

【0044】さらに外気吸入管(32)は、対向して設置し30. た2個の側壁(76)(図2参照)で仕切ってある。これらの 幅は狭くて、たとえば30mm程度である。

[0045] 各側壁(76)は、車室(12)の内部に連通する 循環空気吸入口(78)を備え、この吸入口(78)には、それ ぞれ制御用フラップ弁(80)を付設してある。各フラップ 弁(80)は、図2に実線で示す循環空気吸入口(78)を閉止 する位置と、破線で示す開放位置とに回動可能に、枢支 されている。

【0046】各循環空気吸入口(78)を閉止する位置とす ると、モーター駆動のフアンユニット(30)は、図2に外0 印F1で示すように、車体外からの空気のみを吸引す る。一方、循環空気吸入口(78)を開放し、2個のフラッ プ弁が共通のストッパ(82)に当接する位置とすると、モ ーター駆動のフアンユニット(30)は、図2に矢印F2で 示すように、車室からの循環空気のみを吸引する。フラ ップ弁(80)を中間位置に設定することができることは、 .云うまでもない。

【0047】なお、図2に示すように、プロワ(18)のモ ーター駆動されるフアンユニット(30)は、2個のフアン (84)を1本の水平軸(86)の両端に装着して、1個のモ-50 (52)(56)(62)フラップ弁

ター(88)によって駆動されるようになっている。 2個の フアン(84)には、2か所の空気吸入口(90)(92)から、空 気が供給される。循環空気制御用フラップ弁(80)がどの 位置にあっても、空気吸入口(90)(92)を霧ぐことがない ようになっていることに、留意されたい。

【()()48】この装置(10)は、分離隔壁(14)に対してほ ぼ垂直な姿勢で取付けられているため、車室内に占める 容積が小さく、かつ、エンジン室には全くはみださな 41.

【0049】蒸発器は、自動車に空調装置を装備するか 否かによって、設けたり、あるいは省略したりされる。 [0050]

【発明の効果】(a) 従来の水平型の装置と異なって、 垂直型に構成してあるため、計器板の下方に設置するこ とができ、車室内の占有容積を小さくしうる。

【0051】(b) エンジン室側には、まつたくはみだ さないので、自動車の車体を改造する必要がない。

【0052】(c) 自動車の中心線上に設置可能な、左 右対称形に構成されているので、自動車が右ハンドル式 でも左ハンドル式でも、変更なしに設置することができ る。

【0053】(d) 外気吸入管を横幅方向に扁平な断而 形に形成してあるので、分離隔壁と装置の空気分配器と の間に設置したときに、占有容積が増加せず、かつ、必 要な量の外気を取り入れることができる。

【0054】(e) 装置の奥行寸法が小さく、運転席の 直前の計器板の下方に設置してあるので、保守や修理作 葉が容易である。

【0055】(f) 請求項8に記載した構成では、空調 装置の蒸発器からの凝集水分を、車体の下方に排出する 管路を設けてあるので、凝集水分が車室の床などを汚す ことがない。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】自動車に取付けた本発明の装置の概略縦断而図 である。

【図2】図1のII-II線における断面図である。

【符号の説明】

(10)暖房・換気・空調装置 (14)分離隔壁 (18) ブロワ (22)分配器 (24) 吸入口 (28)蒸発器

(32)外気吸入管 (36)風防窓 (40)空気取入れ口 (44)加熱空気分岐管

(48)フラップ弁 気吹出し口

(12) 車室

(16)エンジン室

(20)床 (23) ケース

(26) 吐出口

(30)フアンユニット (34)外気吸入孔

(38) フード

(42)外氨導通分岐管

(46)熱交換器 (50) (54) (58) (60) 空

_(GI)ハウジング

7

(66)計器板

(70) 開口

(74)後面壁 (78)循環空気吸入口 (68)排出管

(72)前而驩

(76)側壁。

(80)フラップ弁

(82)ストッパ

(86)回転軸

(90)(92)空気吸入口

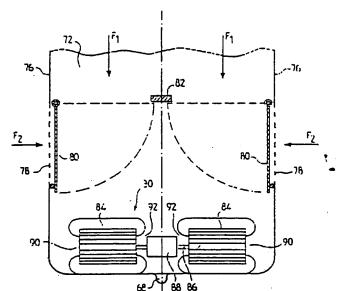
(F2)循環空気

(81)フアン

(88) モーター

(F1)外氛

【図1】



8

【図2】